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February 7, 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ex Parte

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Application by Verizon Maryland, Verizon Washington, DC and Verizon West Virginia for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in States of Maryland, Washington, DC and West Virpiniu, WC Docket No. 02-384 - REDACTED

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter responds to questions from staff seeking additional information concerning Verizon's response to certain issues raised by Starpower in its comments in the above-referenced proceeding.

LNP and DSL: In the Joint Reply Declaration of Kathleen McLean and Catherine T. Webster, Verizon explained that, "Verizon requires Starpower (and any other new local service voice provider) to request that the end user take the necessary steps to contact his/her DSL provider and terminate the data service" when a CLEC wins an end user and wishes to port the number to the CLEC. McLean/Webster Reply Decl. ¶ 15. The same policy applies if Verizon wins an end user currently served by a CLEC.

If, during the negotiation with such an end user, Verizon determines that DSL service is currently on the line, Verizon's representatives are instructed to inform the end user that he or she must contact their DSL provider to remove the DSL service before the order to migrate the service to Verizon can be issued. Unlike CLEC representatives, however, Verizon representatives do not use the Customer Service Record (CSR) during the pre-order negotiation. In the case of customers served by Resale or UNE platform, following negotiation, Verizon reviews the end user's Customer Service Record. If, during that review, Verizon determines that DSL exists on the line, Verizon calls the end user back to inform him or her of the required

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steps.' If the end user is served over an unbundled loop **or** by a full facilities-based provider, Verizon personnel do not have the ability to view the end user's CSR, and will only know that DSL is on the line if the end user informs the service representative during the negotiation.

CCS Links: In the Joint Reply Declaration of Kathleen McLean and Catherine T. Webster, Verizon explained that Starpower ordered CCS links from Verizon more than four years ago **as** special access, not unbundled elements; that Verizon is working to convert Starpower's existing signaling links from access services to network elements where Starpower's configuration meets the requirements of an unbundled network element; and that Verizon will provide Starpower a credit for the difference between access rates and unbundled network element rates.

McLean/Webster Reply Decl. ¶ 41.

As a result of ongoing negotiations with Starpower to resolve this issue, Verizon has learned that Starpower ordered the CCS links at issue as special access in September or October of **1998**. Verizon made available an ordering process for unbundled CCS links in December **1998**, but Starpower's links were not converted from access to UNEs at that time. As noted above, Verizon is now working on converting Starpower's links from access service to UNEs. Verizon is working on a method of accomplishing the conversion that will not *interrupt* service on the links, and will not require Starpower to write new orders. Verizon **is** not aware of any issue with Starpower's configuration that would prevent conversion of the links.

Starpower has not ordered CCS links in the applicant states since 1998. If Starpower or another CLEC wanted to order such links, however, the CLEC would contact its Account Manager who would coordinate a project meeting. The project manager would assist the CLEC throughout the process of designing, ordering, and installing the links. **As** with some other unbundled elements, *see* McLean/Webster Decl. ¶ 53, CCS links continue to be ordered using Access Service Requests (ASRs). The ASR form now includes fields that indicate a CLEC is ordering the product as a UNE rather than as access. Information about ordering UNEs on ASRs, including CCS links, is available to all CLECs on Verizon's wholesale web site. (<http://www22.verizon.com/wholesale/lsp/apphomepage/1,5254,4-CSG,00.html>) Information available at that site includes a tutorial and on-line training, a user guide, and business rules (including definitions of the fields to be filled out).

Verizon will provide Starpower a credit for the difference between access rates and unbundled network element rates for the period from December **1998**, when CCS links could be ordered as UNEs, until such time as the conversion to UNE is completed. The amount of the credit is expected to total less than *********. **An** initial credit will be posted to Starpower's bill within two bill cycles (in approximately the March time frame).

¹ There is one exception in the Resale situation. In response to concerns raised by the Commission, *see, e.g., Rhode Island 271 Order* ¶ 96, Verizon has stated that if the end user is served by resold DSL on a resold voice line ("DRL"), and wants to return to Verizon for voice service while retaining the resold DSL, "Verizon would endeavor to complete the order without disconnection of the DSL service." *See* McLean/Webster Decl. Att. 2 at 20.

Marlene H. Dortch
February 10, 2003
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This document contains proprietary information and has been redacted. A confidential version is also being filed. Please let me know if you have any questions. The twenty-page limit does not apply as set forth in DA 02-3511

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Berkof". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" written in a more legible script and the last name "Berkof" in a more stylized, cursive font.

cc: G. Cohen
G. Gooke
G. Remondino
V. Schlesinger